



# Iowa Department of Human Services

Terry E. Branstad  
Governor

Kim Reynolds  
Lt. Governor

Charles M. Palmer  
Director

## Iowa Mental Health and Disability Services Commission

November 15, 2016

### Commissioners

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David Heaton

Senator Liz Mathis

Representative  
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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

#### *Pertinent Information Regarding the Deliberations of the Mental Health and Disability Services Commission Relating to Medicaid Managed Care*

#### Mental Health and Disability Services Commission Deliberations Summary:

##### **January 21, 2016 - MHDS Commission Meeting**

Deb Johnson, Bureau Chief of Long Term Care at Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME), presented to the Commission on the transition to IA Health Link. There was discussion of member and provider communication, network adequacy, and how IME was working to get approval to move forward with the transition from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS).

##### **February 18, 2016 - MHDS Commission Meeting**

Rick Shults presented to the Commission on the Department's progress towards the transition to IA Health Link, and the letter from the Center on Medicare and Medicaid Services laying out the pathway to approval for Iowa's waiver application.

##### **June 16, 2016 - MHDS Commission Meeting**

Mikki Stier, Director of Iowa Medicaid Enterprise, presented to the Commission on the Medical Assistance Advisory Council (MAAC). She shared the make-up, the statutory duties, and the role of the MAAC in the Medicaid program.

##### **September 15, 2016 - MHDS Commission Meeting**

Liz Matney, Bureau Chief for Managed Care, presented the first Quarterly Report from IA Health Link, and discussed the progress and challenges of IA Health Link from the last three months.

## **October 20, 2016 - MHDS Commission Meeting**

The Commission discussed its executive summary to the Department and the members' thoughts on Medicaid Managed Care over the previous year. The MHDS Commission sees value in managed care as a way to innovate and produce better health outcomes for Iowans. The Commission has noticed that the Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (MCO) have been involved with the provider community and are working with stakeholders in the community to develop service capacity.

During the course of their deliberations, The Commission has heard of a number of concerns from stakeholders and urges the Department of Human Services (Department) and MCOs continued efforts to address the following:

- Delayed and partial payments to providers
- Delayed authorization for long term supports and services
- Reduced lengths of stay in residential treatment that make planning transitions to community treatment difficult
- Confusion over the administrative requirements for Integrated Health Homes
- Confusion over use of the peer support and recovery peer support services
- Increased administrative burdens and costs for providers
- Understaffed mental health providers and disability services workforce due to hiring on behalf of the MCO's to launch their operations
- Consistent communication from the MCOs and the Department and within the MCOs
- Accessibility to additional 1915(b)(3) services prior to MCO enrollment
- Increased development of quality services, including evidenced based practices
- Increased community capacity to serve the most vulnerable individuals